

## ST. MIHIEL ATTACK CLEAN CUT VICTORY OF AMERICAN ARMS

Battle Plans Carried Out  
According to or Ahead  
of Schedule

14,500 BAG OF PRISONERS

Troublesome Salient of Four  
Years' Standing Was Reduced  
at Cost of 7,000 Casualties

It has seemed worth while to describe in some detail the rather intricate battle plans of the American Army for the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient because, from the American side, the description of the plans amounts almost to a description of the battle. The St. Mihiel salient has a military operation been carried out more precisely according to program.

At 1 o'clock on the morning of September 12, the artillery preparation began with one terrific burst of flame from many hundreds of guns, French as well as American, ranging in size from the 75's to the great sea-coast guns, some as large as 400mm. in caliber, which, firing from railway mounts, carried harassing fire to rail and road junctions as far behind the German lines as St. Benoit, Mars-la-Tour, Gorze, Conflans and even Metz.

The stupendous bombardment shook the earth for four hours, driving the enemy's troops into their dugouts, tearing up their trenches and demolishing their communications of every description. Meantime, the hundreds of thousands of Infantrymen, the hundreds of machine guns, the scores of American and French tanks, and the greatest assemblage of American, British and French aviation ever employed for a single operation on the Western front all waited, tense and eager, for the word to sweep forward over the shell-torn fields and roads and trenches which heavy rain had begun in the evening was rapidly turning to quagmire.

### Rolling Barrage Starts

At 5 o'clock, which was still 20 minutes before daybreak of that wet and foggy morning, the bombardment of the German front lines in the sectors of the First and Fourth corps suddenly changed to a rolling barrage, and behind it the Infantry jumped off, preceded by detachments with wire cutters and Bangalore torpedoes to destroy the numerous successive belts of German entanglements.

Immediately occurred the first agreeable surprise. The enemy's wire was in very poor condition, rusty or broken. Little difficulty was experienced in passing it, some of the troops even being able to go over, or through it without cutting. At most points only scattered Infantry are greeted the Americans as they advanced, and upon arriving at the German front line they found a line of machine guns, machine gunners, boys and strong points and surrendering with the utmost docility.

The feats of many individual Americans were exemplified at St. Baussant, just north of Seicheprey, where Cpl. Frank Smith, Company K, 166th Infantry, 42nd Division, discovering a German machine gunner, shot him an enfilading fire on his platoon, shot the gunner, pursued the other three men of the gun crew, who fled, and after capturing them dashed on into the village and, having taken 10 more prisoners in one group.

Somewhat later the same morning, at Boullonville, in the sector of the 8th Division, Sgt. Harry Adams, Company K, 353rd Infantry, chased a fleeing German into one of the houses of the village, fired the last two shots from his pistol through the door, which the fugitive slammed behind him, and demanded the surrender of the occupants. His demand was complied with, but he was rather too hasty to have, with the 300 Germans, including seven officers, flee out and give themselves up to him.

### Hard to Keep Up With Rush

It is obvious why streams of prisoners, very soon after the attack began, were pouring back to the American rear on every road and path. The advance, however, proceeded with all the precautions arranged beforehand, the troops flanking the successive woodlands, farms, villages, machine gun emplacements and other probable centers of resistance and mopping them up afterward. There was some artillery fire from the German batteries further back, but otherwise, especially at the beginning, the enemy seemed paralyzed and impotent. While Allied aviation completely controlled the air, the majestic sweep of the hosts rolled on over everything so rapidly that the few of the tanks or the front lines could keep up with them.

From the facts now known concerning the efforts of the Germans to stem the flood, it appears that their counter-attack began only their LXXVth and Xth Divisions, which had long been in sector there, were on the southern front only the First and Fourth Infantry Corps. The XXXIXth and CXIIId Divisions were assembled in reserve at convenient points behind the St. Mihiel position, and as soon after the bombardment began as General von Gallwitz would consent to their movement, they were marched toward Thiaucourt.

Long before they approached it, the Americans had smashed completely through the LXXVth and Xth Divisions, and at 11:50 a.m. the advance of the 2nd Division was in Thiaucourt, the most important German center and supply depot in this part of the salient.

General Fuchs thereupon ordered his army.

Continued on Page 8

## 9,383 FOREIGN MEDALS

Just 9,383 officers and men are entitled to wear foreign badges and ribbons, according to G.H.Q. figures up to February 26. The Croix de Guerre leads all other foreign decorations as an A.E.F. honor with 8,995 wearers. Belgian and Italian medals are classified, as well as English, the total number of each awarded American soldiers being:

French: Legion of Honor, 61; Medaille Militaire, 124; Croix de Guerre, 8,006; Medaille d'Honneur des Epaves, 38.  
Belgian: Knight of the Order of Leopold, 1; Military Cross, 154; Military Medal, 261.  
Distinguished Conduct Medal, 74; Distinguished Service Order, 11; Distinguished Flying Cross, 19; Meritorious Service Medal, 31; Bar to Military Cross, 5.  
Belgian: Belgian War Cross, 375; Chevalier de l'Ordre de Leopold II, 20; Chevalier de l'Ordre de Leopold III, 15; Chevalier de l'Ordre de la Couronne, 44; Decorations for Officers, 117.  
Italian: Merito Di Guerra, 2; Cross of War, 1; Bronze Medal for Valor, 1; Service Bar (ribbon), 1.

## PVT. W. WILSON, NO. 2,559,201, IS A.E.F. CELEBRITY

Yes, His First Name is Woodrow  
and He's a Buck

Easy, now, easy. Nobody's casting any aspersions on our Commander in Chief. It merely so happens that, while there is a President Woodrow Wilson in Washington, there is also a Pvt. Woodrow Wilson in the A.E.F. His serial number is 2,559,201, and the last accounts received of him at the Central Records Office at Bourges, where they keep track of all the comings and goings of the A.E.F., were that he was transferred to B.H. 27 December 24, 1918.

Had Wilhelm the Last only dispatched one of his much press-agented spies to the four buildings in Bourges set apart for the locator cards of all the men of the A.E.F., he might have capitulated earlier than he did. He would have learned, for instance, that there are nine enlisted Pershings, as well as a scattering of officer Pershings in the overseas Army to help out the C-in-C. He would have learned that he was there is a Newton Bakers with no Sgt. Newton, Cpl. Newton B. and Pvt. Newton J.

He would have learned that we have no fewer than 74 George Washingtons, three General Washingtons (although, unfortunately, they happen to be all privates at present), two Abraham Lincolns, two Ulysses S. Grants, plus five other Ulysses Grants; 79 Robert E. Lees, 12 Caesars (no Juliiuses, however), and four Bismarcks. Being a rather finicky man in such matters, we possess no Hohenzollerns, Hindenburgs or Ludendorffs.

### Never Transferred or Busted

The Commander-in-Chief's card is a matter of levity. As far as these records at Bourges are concerned, he has never been promoted, transferred, sent to hospital or even busted. His card, listed in proper order among the "B's" of the officers' index, merely records:

"Pershing, John J., General, U.S.A. Commander-in-Chief, A.E.F." And he is ranked alphabetically speaking by 2nd Lieut. Frank E. Pershing and 2nd Lieut. Frank J. Pershing.

Leaving the hall of fame for the common man's variety of human being, it is noted that the Grand Old Family of Smith has its own in the A.E.F., though it has been run out of first place in many of the city directories at home. There are 15 Smiths in one company, 15 drawers of Johnsons, totaling 39,000, and followed by 15 drawers of Joneses, 15 of Greens and Greenses, seven of Sullivans, six of Browns and three of Cohens.

First in the roll call of the A.E.F. is Pvt. Edwin B. Aane (yes, three of 'em), of the 32nd Division (followed by Pvt. Harry A. Aane, of the 32nd Division). From there it is quite a jump to Cpl. A. A. Zzepenfeldt (correct, two z's), of Headquarters Company, 23rd Infantry, who preceded on the list the Pvt. Stanislaw Zyzniowski, of the 11th Casual Company, 3rd Provisional Training Regiment.

A couple of million men come between the last of the Smiths and the first of the Z's. It is estimated that if the time ever comes when the A.E.F. is lined up for roll call, the cards to be brought from Bourges to the city directories at home will take (averaging 30 names a minute) 66,666 minutes, or 11,111 hours, or 461 days, or 151-3 months, working on a 24-hour-a-day shift.

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## WE'RE COWBOYS; ASK LA ROCHELLE

Lassoing of Drifting Ship Gives  
Away Secret of Origin

That part of the French population of La Rochelle which had lately begun to doubt that the La Rochelle harbor was militarily engaged cowboys is again back in the fold of common sentiment. All La Rochelle is now united in its faith in the American cowboy. The harbor shipping was saved, and La Rochelle knew definitely that the French moving pictures of typical American life had not deceived them.

## EYE ON COMPANY FUNDS

Commanders of ports of embarkation are authorized to hold in France officers of returning units who have custody of company funds until final action has been taken in the audit of these funds, G.O. 31 specifies.

This order calls for strict enforcement of the Army Regulation requiring monthly accounting of funds and inspection of accounts quarterly by higher commanders. Officers are to be held responsible for the funds and to inspect accounts of all company funds when units arrive at Le Mans or at an embarkation port. In any extended absence from the port, the necessary witnesses may be detached from their organizations until the inquiry has been completed.

## ENGINEERS FOR RUSSIA

Casey Jones, America's most immortal railroad luminary, will soon visit Russia. Two special companies of railroad operating Engineers have been organized among A.E.F. volunteers to operate trains on the line of communication for American troops in Russia.

Some time ago President Wilson made mention of the fact that such a step was to be taken. The two companies have been formed and are now being equipped for journey to Russia by way of England.

## RECRUITS FOR NEW REGULAR ARMY TO BE SOUGHT IN A.E.F.

W.D. Instructions Call for  
One and Three Year En-  
listment Periods

## PARTIES TO BE SENT OUT

Purpose of New Plan Assumed to  
Be Providing Force to Occupy  
German Territory

Recruiting for the Regular Army is to be opened throughout the A.E.F., under cable instructions received from the War Department at Washington.

One-year and three-year enlistment periods will be offered instead of the old seven-year period, and there are special discharge provisions calculated to make the service attractive.

The recruiting among experienced soldiers of the temporary armies marks the opening of the Government's effort to place its Army on a definite footing of 500,000 men, the figure that Congress has decided necessary as consistent with the national safety.

The Regular Army enlistments have been authorized by Congress to succeed the temporary enlistments for the emergency.

Regular Army enlistments had been suspended by the Act of May 18, 1918, which authorized temporary enlistments for the emergency, and the new law authorizing the resumption of enlistments was recognized as imperative to preserve the nation's fighting strength with the disbanding of the great emergency force.

### Present War "Prior Service"

According to announcement from G.H.Q., the conditions under which Regular Army enlistments will be received in the A.E.F. are these:

Men who have had prior service, which includes service in the present war, may re-enlist for one year or three years. Those who enlist for three years may be discharged at the end of one year under regulations to be formulated by the Secretary of War.

The age limits are from 18 to 40 for all branches except staff corps, where the maximum age will be 55.

No man with dependents will be enlisted without provision for the support of his family prior to April 2, 1917.

Civilians who desire to enlist in the A.E.F. must sign up for three years.

Men will be discharged from the service in France so they may be re-enlisted under the new plan.

Men who re-enlist under the new plan will not be assigned to the regular army but will be provided under the seven-year enlistment plan.

### For Army of Occupation

The primary purpose of the new enlistment plan, while not stated, is accepted to be the providing of a volunteer army available for occupying the German territory as long as the necessity exists.

Several bills are pending in Congress for temporarily increasing the strength of the Regular Army by short-time enlistments had this approved purpose.

In December the War Department made several provisions for retaining in the Army men awaiting discharge in the States who did not wish to leave the service.

Although there was no authority to accept volunteers in the Regular Army, it was decided that no soldier need be discharged against his will, and that all suitable men eligible for discharge who wished to continue in the service should be permitted to select the branch of service they desired and would be assigned or attached at their grades to the 8th to 20th months of their enlistment.

Plans for obtaining Regular Army enlistments in the A.E.F. call for special recruiting units for each division and for divisions of the S.O.S. and recruiting parties also will be sent out.

## SEGREGATION, THEN WORK, FOR VENERALS

Diseased Men Won't Leave  
With Outfits, Says  
General Order

Soldiers "suffering from venereal diseases will be segregated and assigned to provisional organizations retained for labor purposes in Europe," says G.O. 32, G.H.Q. The order, which came into effect last week, is the result of the official determination that no man suffering from venereal disease will be allowed to embark with his outfit.

Amplifying the policy, the order leaves life to the policy of retaining soldiers in the A.E.F. feels in its achievement, and which the whole American nation shares, must not be marred by the return of anyone to civil life who, by his misconduct, has rendered himself incompetent to maintain that high standard of citizenship which America rightly expects of her returning soldiers.

The future health and welfare of our people demand that the soldiers of the A.E.F. return to their homes as clean in person as they have been in spirit.

## YANKS ARE BOOKWORMS

The A.E.F. is developing an extensive appetite for reading matter. Following the recent announcement that the American Library Association had donated 100,000 books available to lend A.E.F. members upon mail request, an average of 3,000 requests a day have been received.

## THE MOST INTERESTED MEMBERS—



—of The League of Nations

## WET CANTEENS TO BE RUN BY Y.M.C.A.; TRANSFER APRIL 1

Army Will Take Over Asso-  
ciation's Warehouses  
Middle of Month

While the Army is completing preparations to take over operation of Y.M.C.A. exchanges, the Y.M.C.A. is making plans for the transfer of the canteens to the Army.

It is announced that the Y.M.C.A. will continue to run wet canteens, selling coffee, chocolate and sandwiches, with the advent of warm weather, ice cream and soft drinks.

Most of its feminine personnel now engaged in exchanges will be retained on duty in the wet canteens. Men now in that branch will be assigned to other duties.

The Army contemplates taking over the Y.M.C.A. canteens and stock on hand in them on March 15 and the canteen service on April 1.

In view of the fact that the Y.M.C.A. will operate wet canteens and use its funds for other purposes, the Y.M.C.A. is making plans for the transfer of the canteens to the Army.

It was decided to gather a body sufficient to represent adequately the entire A.E.F. and invitations were sent out to 1,500 officers and men, recognized as representative members of their units, to avail themselves of the three-day Paris leave and attend a caucus in Paris the 15th.

### For Educational Work

Many Y.M.C.A. men now doing canteen work will be appointed school supervisors, and devote their energies to assisting in the carrying out of the educational program in the post and divisional schools.

With increased activity in all lines of outdoor sports in the A.E.F. and with the big held meets in May and June, an exchange of the Y.M.C.A. men at present on canteen duty is being planned.

Still others will be given entertainment work which, like the educational and athletic program, is to be increased in scope.

Within the last two weeks, some 1,200 Y.M.C.A. women have arrived from the States to take up their duties in the A.E.F. and many of them will go into the wet canteen service.

Others will be assigned to other duties, and many of them will go into the wet canteen service.

Under the plan certain districts would be allotted to the Y.M.C.A., certain other districts to the Y.W.C.A., and certain others to the Y.N.C.A.

The idea of G.H.Q. is that by assigning districts to each religious group more men of the A.E.F. will be served and the organization will be enabled to give more satisfactory service.

## TO NEWSPAPER MEN

Newspaper and magazine writers of all ranks in the A.E.F. men who, previous to their entry into military service, were professional writers or contributors to newspapers, magazines, etc., are requested to register with this paper at once.

## VETERANS OF A.E.F. IN LIBERTY LEAGUE

Conference on Organization  
to Be Held in Paris Be-  
ginning 15th

Definite steps for the organization of a veterans' association for members of the A.E.F. are to be taken at a conference in Paris on March 15, 16 and 17, which will be attended by more than 1,500 officers and enlisted men, representatives of various combat divisions, sections of the S.O.S. and other parts of the A.E.F.

The proposed organization, conceived recently at a meeting of a score of National Guard and National Army officers, will include in its membership, according to the outline adopted, "men of all parties, all creeds and all ranks, and its broad purpose will be the perpetuation of the relationships formed while in the military service." It will be known as the Liberty League.

The first steps toward the forming of the organization were taken in Paris, where the officers changed to be on official business.

Several meetings were held. It was decided that, while the body was not sufficiently numerous or widely enough chosen to warrant the actual launching of the organization, it would be proper for it to act as a temporary committee looking to the promotion of such an organization.

It was decided to gather a body sufficient to represent adequately the entire A.E.F. and invitations were sent out to 1,500 officers and men, recognized as representative members of their units, to avail themselves of the three-day Paris leave and attend a caucus in Paris the 15th.

### Open to All Interested

Invitations to attend were not intended to be arbitrary, the committee announced, and any officer or enlisted man not invited who is in Paris at the time of the meeting is invited to be present and to have a voice in the meeting.

1st Lieut. Theodore Roosevelt, of the 1st Division, was elected temporary chairman and Maj. Eric Wood, of the 88th Division, temporary secretary. A sub-committee was appointed to prepare the program for the 15th Division; Maj. Ralph Cole, of the 37th Division, and Maj. Eric Wood were chosen to select the delegates to be invited to the caucus.

It is expected that at the caucus, which will be held at the American Club, 4 Avenue de la Liberte, Paris, the 15th, a tentative constitution will be developed and arrangements made whereby all units and territories may elect representatives to a great convention which will meet next winter in the United States, with power to reject or ratify any steps taken by the caucus in France.

Through the Training Camp Association, the temporary committee has communicated with troops in the United States with a view to having a preliminary caucus held at home in April.

## DISCHARGE BADGE CHOSEN

The A.E.F. will soon have a chance to see the buttons which will be issued to all honorably discharged soldiers for wear with their civilian clothes. The design, selected from 15 drawings submitted by the Commission of Fine Arts back in the States, has been approved by Gen. Pershing.

The first step to manufacture the button in quantities have been taken.

The British Army has a distinctive silver discharge badge that could be seen plentifully in any civilian assembly throughout the war.

### 5,000 IN TOURS INSPECTION

Five thousand soldiers and women on duty at Hq. S.O.S. in Tours, were inspected Monday by General Pershing. The ceremony was held in the quadrangle of the principal administration block, Barracks 66. The companies were formed in open ranks, and marched off the field in turn to the C-in-C. passed down their lines. The formation included companies of American telephone operators, secretaries and English W.A.A.C.s.

## THOUSANDS FLOCK TO BEAUNE FOR UNIVERSITY WORK

Classes Will Start on 10th;  
Formal Opening Set  
for 15th

Beaune university, the Army's great educational institution, awaits the coming of thousands of ambitious men of the A.E.F. who have enrolled for the various courses offered.

The big college received its first students yesterday. They came from the S.O.S. Today and tomorrow the quotas from the First, Second, and Third Armies will arrive. Classes will be started on the 10th. Plans are being made for a formal dedication on the 15th, which, it is expected, General Pershing will attend.

Formerly a huge base hospital center, the buildings at Beaune taken over by the Army for educational purposes have been converted into class rooms, laboratories, dormitories and recreation and entertainment halls capable of accommodating 40,000 students. There are nearly 3,000 buildings and of this number 500 will be used as class rooms. When in full operation, Beaune university, with its agricultural college and its Beaune faculty. He is expected, General Pershing will attend.

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## FIFTH OF A.E.F. OFF; FIGHTING DIVISION HITS GANG PLANK

Week's Sailings for Home  
Bring Total Up Beyond  
400,000 Mark

LEVIATHAN CARRIES 10,000

Discharges in States Number  
1,013,648, With 1,396,000  
Still on Rolls Feb. 1

Five months almost to a day from the time it hurried itself into the battle in Picardy they resulted in the breaking of the Hindenburg line and helped complete the collapse of the German army's whole Western front defense system, the 27th Division of New York sailed from the shores of France on its way to a welcome in its home harbor under the shadow of the Statue of Liberty.

When the Leviathan—the former German liner Vaterland—swung out into the ocean from the harbor of Brest on February 27, she carried 10,000 New York men of three Infantry regiments and other 27th Division units whose lives will never hold greater days than those they went through in the ending of September, 1918, between Cambrai and St. Quentin. The 27th Division was on its way home as the first to leave France of the historic fighting divisions which had maintained divisional unity.

The Leviathan carried the division headquarters and Headquarters Troop, the 53rd Brigade headquarters, the 15th and 16th Infantry regiments, the 27th Division's seven companies of the 107th, the larger part of the 15th Machine Gun Battalion and various other units of the division. Other 27th Division men sailed the same day from Brest on the U.S.S. Plattsburg.

### 50,000 Sail in Week

The sailing of the 27th Division was one feature of a week which saw more than 50,000 men of the A.E.F. sail for home—a figure that brought the total of departures over 400,000. That total means that one-fifth of the A.E.F. already has gone home.

In connection with the total of all men returned from the A.E.F. since the war began, interest attaches to figures made public several weeks ago by the War Department showing that 1,013,648 officers and enlisted men had been discharged in the United States up to February 1, this figure including discharges of men returning from overseas. The same statistics show that here were on February 1, 1,396,000 troops arrived on active rolls in the United States.

### Artillery Leads Homegoers

Departures from France listed by branches of service, in the last week of February, were:

were:		Officers	Men
Air service	52	3	3,257
Ammunition	48	1	1,754
Army service	48	1	1,754
Artillery	48	1	1,754
Cavalry	431	12	12,000
Casuals	907	10	10,000
Chemical	207	1	1,754
Engineers	101	4	4,000
Machine Gun	97	2	2,000
Medical	85	2	2,000
Infantry	374	11	11,000
Ordnance	2	1	1,754
Squadmaster	48	1	1,754
School	1	1	1,754
Signal Corps	2	1	1,754
Trains and Headquarters	22	1	1,754
Total for week	2,152	48	48,000
Previously reported	22,014	335	335,000
Total to date	24,167	383	383,000